

Johann Georg Bonelli, the oldest son of Hans Georg and Barbara Ammann Bonelli, was born May 25, 1827 in Switzerland. His father was born April 22, 1798 in Switzerland and was converted to Mormonism there. Johann attended to his father's trade as weaver while the father filled two missions for the Church, one to Germany and one to France.

Johann was educated in the Swiss schools, studying French and German, and his ability to speak these languages aided him greatly in filling missions later in life, to the same countries his father had labored in.

Johann and his sister sailed for America August 17, 1859, and joined their parents who had emigrated a few years earlier. When they arrived in Utah, they settled in the 19th Ward, where the Bonelli family carried on a weaving business started by the father, with machinery brought from St. Louis, Missouri. He was married in Salt Lake City to Johanna Harrison who came from England in 1857. Two sons, George and Edwin, were born to them. Another son, Alfred, was born in Tooele. It was after the birth of this third son that Johanna lost her eyesight, so from then on her life was a great hardship. She was a wonderful woman, patient and good, and everyone who knew her loved her.

They bought the property from Eli B. Kelsey and paid \$2,000 cash for it, which has always been known as "The Bonelli Property," on Vine Street, in Tooele. In about the year 1888 he built a large store and carried on a mercantile business and drug store, one large room with two counters running through the entire length of the store. The business was never very prosperous because he was so trusting with everyone and could not refuse any of his friends and neighbors. After his store closed there were thousands of dollars worth of accounts still unpaid. He kept the store until his health failed, three years before he died. His death occurred on December 3, 1899, at the age of 72. Johanna lived three years after his death.—Olla B. Hiss

### THE SWISS IN MIDWAY

The history of the Swiss pioneers and the history of Midway are inseparable. Some of the first settlers in 1863 and 64—John Huber, Casper Sulser, S. J. Schneitter, Peter Abplanalp, John Moser, Conrad and Ulrich Abbeglen—came from Switzerland. During the next ten years the following came; John U. Probst, Andreas and Jacob Burgener, John Murri Sr., Fredrick Hasler; John, Jacob, and Ulrich Buhler, and John Kummer.

These people were thrifty and industrious. They brought many customs and trades with them. Many were proficient in the art of making cheese. Among these were Gottlieb Abbeglen, Margaretta Hasler, and Mr. Barben. Late in the spring several families would gather their dairy cows together and go up into the Snake Creek and White Pines canyon to spend the summer. The grass and wild flowers grew knee deep along the hillsides. The people tended the cows and made cheese. They tended cows for their friends and neighbors too. In the fall they would drive the herds back to town bringing the cheese they had made. The

cheeses were sold or divided with those who had sent their cows away for the summer. Later when this practise was discontinued, Fred Buhler established a cheese factory in town.

These people all loved to sing and listen to good music. Andreas Burgener, a former Swiss soldier and band leader, brought instruments from Switzerland when he immigrated. Upon his arrival he immediately organized a brass band. Their music was of such excellence they were asked to play in all the surrounding communities on many occasions. The original members were: Andreas Burgener, Peter Abplanalp, S. J. Schneitter, Joseph and Conrad Abbeglen, John and Christian Burgener, and others. When Mr. Burgener became too old to lead the band his son Arnold took over its direction. Arnold, Walter, and Arnold Burgener Jr. are all noted orchestra and band leaders in the state today.

In the evenings many would gather in groups to sing. John Huber organized and directed a choir which furnished music for all occasions—church, funerals, weddings, dances, etc., for many years. Many beautiful quartet numbers were composed (words and music) by Mr. Huber.

Mr. Huber was an auditor of store accounts in Heber and Park City. He kept a very accurate church record and history of Midway.

Mr. Huber taught school and also gave a night class in spelling and penmanship for adults. He is remembered most however for the beautiful songs and poems he composed. His children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have inherited a love and talent for music.

This sketch would be incomplete without a word about the women and their accomplishments. There were many fine singers: the Huber girls, the Haslers, and the Abbeglen sisters. Mary M. Huber (Mrs. John Huber) is noted for the beautiful netted and hairpin lace she made; Mrs. Gertsch for the pillow lace she made. Pins were placed in a design on a pillow, thread was wound around small wooden bobbins which were thrown swiftly back and forth to make dainty long wearing lace. Some of the ladies wove sturdy colorful rugs on looms. Mrs. Lena Burgener Zenger carries this art on.

The early emigrants came because of their love of the Gospel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Many returned and fulfilled missions in their old country. Thru their efforts others joined the Church and came here—the Kohlers, Burgis, Remunds, Sweivels, Sondereggens and others.

Because of these good people our town now enjoys harmonious singing and instrumental music of the Probst, Kohler, Huber, Zenger, and Burgener boys; the musical chiming of the Swiss cow bells in summer time. The yodeling of Conrad Gertsch, and the swimming and delicious chicken dinners at Schneitter resort.—Melba Duke Probst

### HOLLAND'S CONTRIBUTION TO UTAH

The Netherlands' mission field of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints began in 1861, the year Utah was divided, and the western part became the Territory of Nevada. That year the overland telegraph line was completed from the states over Salt Lake City to California and Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated in March. The year 1861 also was the first year of the Civil war. It is interesting to note that